

B O R O U G H
O F
P O N T E F R A C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
F O R T H E Y E A R
1966.

B Y
J. F. FRASER,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H. D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To:- The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Pontefract.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration,
a Report on the Health and Health Services of the Borough during the
year 1966.

The Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with
the Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough, Housing and the Inspection
and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information, certain details of the personal health services
administered by the County Council are included.

- I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

John F. Fraser.

Medical Officer of Health.

PONTFRAC T B O R O U G H.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1966.

Chairman: Alderman B. Wood.

Deputy Chairman: Alderman G. E. Poppleton.

Cr. D. Robinson (The Mayor)

Cr. R. Cunningham.

Cr. A. F. Curry.

Cr. J. Dixon.

Cr. F. A. A. Gardiner.

Cr. G. Lofthouse.

Cr. Mrs. V. Pritchard.

Cr. P. Westerman.

Cr. L. Williams.

PART ONE.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area of the Borough : 4,865 acres.

Registrar-General's Estimate of civilian population : 29,260

Number of inhabited Houses (end of 1966) according to the rate books : 9,050

Rateable Value : 1966 - £813,397

Sum represented by penny rate : 1966 - £3,240

VITAL STATISTICS. (Registrar-General's - Registered during the year).

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1965.

BIRTHS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total</u>	
Legitimate	298	(286)	270	(267)	568	(553)
Illegitimate.	14	(16)	16	(12)	30	(28)
	<u>312</u>	<u>(302)</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>(279)</u>	<u>598</u>	<u>(581)</u>

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 20.4 (20.2)

Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population : 18.6 (18.3)

Percentage of illegitimate births : 5.26 (4.82)

<u>STILLBIRTHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate.	4	(3)	5	(6)	9	(9)
Illegitimate.	-	(1)	-	(-)	-	(1)
	<u>4</u>	<u>(4)</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>(6)</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>(10)</u>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births:- 14.8 (16.9)

Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population:- 0.34 (0.35)

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
All age groups.	160	(154)	169	(123)	329	(277)

Infants under one year.

	<u>Male.</u>		<u>Female.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
Legitimate.	8	(5)	6	(5)	14	(10)
Illegitimate.	-	(-)	-	(-)	-	(-)
	<u>8</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>(10)</u>

MATERNAL DEATHS. Nil. (Nil)

Death Rates.

Crude Death rate per 1,000 population :-	11.2	(9.6)
Adjusted Death rate per 1,000 population :-	12.5	(10.9)
All Infants per 1,000 live births :-	23.4	(17.2)
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births :-	23.4	(18.1)
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births :-	Nil.	(Nil)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and stillbirths :-	Nil.	(Nil)

The Principal causes of death are set out in the following Table:

Cause of Death.	Male	Female	Totals
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	-	2
Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
Measles	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	3	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	11	6	17
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	8	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	13	13	26
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	26	32	58
Coronary Disease, Angina	27	20	47
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	-	1
Other Heart Diseases	6	10	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	7	9
Influenza	6	2	8
Pneumonia	14	26	40
Bronchitis	17	11	28
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	3	4
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	2	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	4	2	6
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	6	15	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	-	7
All other Accidents	2	4	6
Suicide	2	1	3
Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
Totals:	160	169	329

The local death rate during the past 12 years is shown in the following table:

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
1955	9.2
1956	9.2
1957	9.7
1958	20.4
1959	11.2
1960	12.0
1961	10.6
1962	9.8
1963	10.7
1964	10.7
1965	9.6
1966	11.2

Infant Mortality.

The following Table gives causes of Infant Deaths during the year, 1966, classified into age groups :-

TABLE II

Cause of Death	Age Groups.							All ages		
	Under 1 year							Under 1 year		
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks.	2-4 wks.	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	M	F	Total
Lobar Pneumonia	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	2
Bilateral Tentorial Tear	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Neuro muscular defect of Bowels.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Prematurity.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Fallot's Tetralogy	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Haemorrhagic Broncho Pneumonia.	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	3
Acute Infection of Lungs.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1
Gastro intestinal bleeding.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals:	6	2	1	3	2	-	-	8	6	14

COMPARISON OF PONTEFRACT VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING AREAS,
THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

TABLE III.

	Pontefract Borough.	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (prov- isional figures).
<u>BIRTH RATE</u> (per 1,000 estimated population).				
Crude Rate :	20.4	17.8	18.0	17.7
Adjusted Rate :	18.6	18.2	18.2	-
<u>DEATH RATE</u> (per 1,000 estimated population).				
Crude Rate :	11.2	12.9	12.1	11.7
Adjusted Rate :	12.5	13.3	12.9	-
Infective & Para. Dis. Excl. Tub. but incl. Syphl. and other V.D.	0.10	0.03	0.03	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory.	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.04
Tuberculosis Other.	-	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis - All Forms.	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.05
Cancer, Lung, Bronchus.	0.58	0.48	0.45	0.56
Cancer, All Forms.	2.08	2.16	2.00	2.25
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	1.98	2.02	1.87	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases.	2.49	4.77	4.48	*
Respiratory Diseases.	2.73	1.88	1.72	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	-	0.31	0.25	0.26
Perinatal Mortality.	24.7	25.9	25.1	26.3
Neonatal Mortality.	15.1	13.2	12.6	12.9
Infant Mortality.	23.4	20.1	19.8	19.0
Stillbirths (per 1,000 live and stillbirths.	14.8	14.9	14.4	15.4

* Figures not available.

P A R T T W O.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIVE AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table gives details of the incidence of notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

TABLE IV.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar.	Apr/ June	Jul/ Sept.	Oct/ Dec.	Total	Deaths	Number of Cases admitted to Hospital
Measles	25	5	66	594	690	1	4
Scarlet Fever	5	2	1	4	12	-	6
Dysentery	-	9	14	4	27	-	15
Acute Pneumonia	-	1	-	2	3	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	2	2	-	1
Chickenpox	-	-	-	7	7	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	4	1	5	-	2
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Totals:	30	18	85	614	746	1	23

Diphtheria.

No case of Diphtheria occurred during the year.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

The immunisation programme against diphtheria and tetanus was continued during the year, and included the annual visits to schools in the Pontefract area.

419 children under the age of 5 years received a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria and Tetanus. 10 children under 5 received a reinforcing injection against Diphtheria and Tetanus.

981 school children received a reinforcing injection against diphtheria and 666 a reinforcing dose against tetanus.

A further 868 school children had a primary course against tetanus and 106 against diphtheria.

The percentage of school children who have been immunised against diphtheria is 91.03% and against tetanus 81.79%.

The annual school programme for vaccination against poliomyelitis was also continued, with 110 children receiving a primary course and 401 a reinforcing dose. The percentage of school children in Pontefract protected against this disease is now 91.43%.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons.

TABLE V.

Number of Cases on Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
At the commencement of 1966.	100	71	18	18	207
Notified for the first time during 1966.	5	2	--	1	8
Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers.	5	1	-	1	7
Removed from Register.	9	8	-	1	18
Cases remaining on Register at end of 1966.	101	66	18	19	204

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table:-

TABLE VI.

Entries Relating to:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total on Register.
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died	3	1	-	-	4
Persons certified by the medical practitioner in attendance to have recovered	4	3	-	1	8
Revised diagnosis - not Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Persons who have ceased to reside permanently in the district.	2	4	-	-	6
Totals:	9	8	-	1	18

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified according to age, sex and site of disease:-

TABLE VII.

Ages.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 35	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Under 45	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Under 55	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Under 65	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Over 65	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	5	2	-	1	3	1	-	-

National Assistance Act.

Section 47.

It was not found necessary to deal with any patients under the above Act.

PART III
COUNTY COUNCIL
OF THE
WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
DIVISION 12.

Pontefract Municipal Borough.
Featherstone Urban District.
Knottingley Urban District.
Osgoldcross Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER
1966.

BY
J. F. FRASER,
M.B., B.S., D.F.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31st December, 1966.

Divisional Medical Officer.

J. F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer
and School Medical Officer.

J. E. Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers (Part-time)

J. Simons, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
G. Hessel, M.B., Ch.B.

Leeds Regional Hospital Board - Visiting Staff.
Ophthalmologist.

K. K. Frasher, M.B., B.S., D.O.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

R. W. L. Calderwood, F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Oto-Rhino Laryngologist.

K. M. Mayall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.F.P.S.

Divisional Nursing Officer.

Mrs. M. Craig.

Health Visitors and School Nurses.

Mrs. F. M. Brice.
Mrs. B. Clarke.
Miss L. O. I. Day.
Miss A. Elsley.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.
Miss B. N. Kennington.
Miss M. Reading.
Mrs. M. P. Sawyer.
Miss S. Sharpe.
Mrs. E. M. Vipurse.
Mrs. M. K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitor.

Mrs. L. Hudson.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor.

Mrs. E. W. Petch.

Midwives.

Mrs. K. Berry.
Miss E. S. Essex.
Mrs. E. Glover. (Relief)
Mrs. A. Hepworth.
Mrs. B. Murphy.
Miss C. Norton.
Mrs. P. Philip.
Mrs. A. M. Randall.
Mrs. S. Whitehead.

Home Nurses.

Miss L. Casey.
Mrs. S. G. Cousins.
Mrs. S. Eaton.
Mrs. M. L. Etherington.
Mrs. F. Green.
Mrs. V. McVeigh.
Mrs. A. Pearce.
Mrs. J. M. Pycock.
Mrs. D. Vause.

Mental Welfare Officers.

Miss M. Horsley.
Mr. G. F. G. Townend.

Speech Therapist.

Mrs. N. Hepworth.

Clerical Staff.

Mr. W. Carver. (Senior Clerk)
Mr. R. Bailey. (Deputy Senior Clerk)
Miss K. Duker.
Miss J. M. E. Ellis.
Miss J. M. Gibbons.
Miss J. L. Newman.
Miss M. A. Rooke.
Miss A. Stainton.
Mrs. M. Slack. (Part-Time)
Miss S. E. Wigham.

INTRODUCTION.

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1966 was 1359, an increase of 4 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 20.0 per thousand of the estimated population was the same as the previous year. It was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 18.0 and the England and Wales birth rate of 17.7.

Deaths.

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 663, an increase of 54 compared with 1965.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.8 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The West Riding Administrative area was 12.1 and England and Wales, 11.7.

Infant Mortality.

In 1966 the deaths of Infants under one year of age numbered 26, a decrease of 2 compared with 1965. The Infant Mortality was 19.1 as against 21.0 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one maternal death in the Divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Of the 1361 notified live births, 427 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 49 of these cases.

Notifications.

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the Division:-

Death of Mother	-
Death of Child	-
Still Births.	3
Liability to be source of infection.	-

Medical Assistance.

Medical Aid notices sent in by Midwives during 1966 numbered 12, all of these being domiciliary.

Analgesia.

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with a Trilene Analgesia Machine.

Pethidine only was given in 63 cases. Trilene was administered in 76 cases and with Pethidine in 222 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

There are two ante-natal clinics in the Division which are held at Pontefract and Knottingley. During the year 262 patients attended. The total number of attendances was 1089. 32 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at Pontefract and Featherstone clinics.

These have continued to be fairly well attended and the number of attendances at these Clinics during the year was 554.

Institutional Midwifery.

Patients from this Division are admitted to either the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

During the year accommodation was provided for all applicants having their first baby, and for all those with home conditions unsuitable for a domiciliary confinement. Of the remaining applicants a high proportion were allotted beds.

CHILD WELFARE.

There are County owned clinics at Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley. A mobile caravan type clinic visits the Parishes of Whitley Bridge, Womersley, Eggborough, Brotherton, Kellington, Heck, Hensall, Monk Fryston and Fairburn in the Osgoldcross Rural District, at fortnightly intervals.

During 1966, 2731 children attended at clinics and they made 20,769 attendances.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost prices to all women attending at the Clinics:-

Ostermilk No. 2.	Farex.
Trufood, humanised.	Robinson's Groats.
Cow and Gate, full cream.	Robinson's Triple Pack.
Minadex.	Robrex.
Trufood Cereal.	Robsoup.
Amexolin.	Rose Hip Syrup.
Scotts Twin Pack.	

The annual turnover of baby food, etc., is approximately £6,000.

The following were distributed free of charge:-

Ascorbic Acid.
Fersamel Syrup.

Ferrous Fumerate Tablets.
Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the Clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies.

During the year 99 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division, and 25 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups i.e. the entrants (5 years +), second age group (7 years +), intermediate years (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at 49 schools in the Division.

Re-examination of children who, at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3845 periodic inspections and 1264 re-examinations were carried out.

General Condition of Children.

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 99.87% were classified as satisfactory and only .13% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness.

During the year health visitors and school nurses made 29,514 examinations of children in schools. Of these, 427 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS.

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Dr. K. K. Prasher holds weekly clinics at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. During the year 1,698 children were examined. Of these 593 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.

Mr. K. M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, for children from this Division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 28 sessions and saw 131 children. In all, the children made 312 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Mr. R. W. L. Calderwood, Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Central Clinic, Pontefract, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 94 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 117.

Child Guidance Treatment.

A child Guidance Clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic, Pontefract. Children from surrounding Divisional areas attended here in addition to our own. Dr. K. Maxwell held consultant sessions.

Mr. D. G. Pickles, Clinic Psychologist, and Mrs. P. Y. Harris, Psychiatric Social Worker, continued to do much good work at the Clinic.

Speech Therapy.

Mrs. N. Hepworth, Speech Therapist, held clinics on two half-days each week at Pontefract Central Clinic. In addition she has one session each week at the Castle Day E.S.N. School and at the Knottingley Clinic. During the year 179 sessions were held and 122 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils.

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in special schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training Colleges.

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine Candidates applying for entry to Training Colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college Authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 43 candidates were examined and where necessary, x-ray examinations arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 16 examinations were made.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

The programme of Vaccination was continued during the year.

At the end of 1966 the position was as follows:-

Children and Young Persons under 16 years of age.

Number vaccinated.	21,707
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Young persons born between 1933 and 1942.

Number vaccinated.	3,145
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Adults.

Number vaccinated.	1,070
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	<u>25,922</u>
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B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered for the first time to all children in the year of their 13 th. birthday. With the consent of the parents, a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

In addition, vaccination is offered each year to those pupils over the age of 13 years, who have previously been absent or whose parents have not consented. Each child has therefore, a continuing opportunity to be vaccinated before leaving school.

<u>No. of consent</u> <u>forms issued.</u>	<u>No. of affirmative</u> <u>consent forms received.</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>negative.</u>	<u>Mantoux</u> <u>Positive.</u>
1,763	689	768	615	153
<u>Not</u> <u>Ascertained.</u>		<u>B.C.G.</u> <u>Vaccination.</u>		
-		615		

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, the following number of visits were made by the Health Visitors in the Division:

No. of children under 5 years of age visited during the year	4,838
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age.....	6,142
Total visits made to children aged 1 and under 2 years	3,756
Total visits made to children aged 2 but under 5 years	7,542
Total visits made to tuberculous households	2,029
Persons aged 65 or over (excluding Domestic Help only visits)	952
No. of visits to persons aged 65 or over	1,668

HOME NURSING.

During the year 20,848 visits were paid by home nurses compared with 18,151 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification.	No. of Cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during year.
(1) Medical.	509	17,071
(2) Surgical.	194	3,243
(3) Infectious Diseases.	9	64
(4) Tuberculosis.	3	47
(5) Maternal Complications.	31	230
(6) Other.	15	193
TOTALS:-	761	20,848
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year.	428	14,633
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	31	121
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year.	205	16,067

The reduction in the work carried out by the Home Nurses corresponds with the national picture. It is partly attributable to a change-over from drugs given by injection to newer drugs given by mouth.

CHIROPODY SERVICE.

A free Chiropody service is provided for the following categories of patient:-

- (a) Expectant Mothers.
- (b) Persons of Pensionable age. (i.e. Males over 65, Females over 60).
- (c) Handicapped Persons.

Clinics are held weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics. Patients who are unable, on health grounds, to attend the clinic, are treated in their own homes.

In 1966, 517 patients were treated at the Clinics, and made 1,968 attendances and 365 patients were treated at home and 1,968 treatments given.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Home Help Service is provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Section 29 of the Act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:-

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| (a) Ill. | (d) Expectant Mother. |
| (b) Lying-in. | (e) Mental Defective. |
| (c) Aged. | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this Division at 31st December, 1966 was 47.

Authorised Divisional Establishment.

(i)	Basic.	45.75
(ii)	From Reserve.	1.0
(iii)	Total.	46.75

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December, 1966.

(i)	Whole-time	-
(ii)	Part-time	61
(iii)	Total	61

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December, 1966.

	<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed.</u>
<u>Under 65.</u>		
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	27	1,200
(ii) Chronic Sick and Tuberculous.	82	4,692
(iii) Others.	4	64
<u>Over 65.</u>	499	81,989
	<u>612</u>	<u>87,945</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time - 42.28.

MENTAL HEALTH.

Much good work in this field was carried out during the year by the two Mental Welfare Officers working in the Division.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF STAFF.

In 1966, 40 examinations were made of staff in connection with superannuation.

Vaccination and Immunisation in Schools.

In 1962 the school immunisation programme was extended to include protection against Tetanus. There has been growing emphasis for this in recent years and it can now be administered in a combined form with Diphtheria.

By the end of 1966 out of a school population of 11,107 children, 9,836 had received protection against Diphtheria representing 88.46% of the population, whilst in the five years that Tetanus protection has been available, 8,952 (80.50%) children have been immunised against Tetanus.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was also introduced into the school programme in 1964 in order to improve the immunity rate. 9,957 school children are now protected against this disease, representing 88.93% of the school population.

The ready co-operation of the headteachers is very much appreciated in these schemes, the success of which is shown in the high immunity rates achieved amongst school children.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

During 1966, 458 primary vaccinations against Smallpox were carried out.

The Child Neglected in its Own Home.

Quarterly meetings of the Co-ordinating Committee for the care of the child neglected in its own home were held.

These meetings attended by representatives of the Health, Welfare, Education and Children's Departments of the County Council, the Health and Housing Departments of the County District Councils, together with the Probation Officer, W.S.P.C.C. Inspector and National Assistance Board Officer, were helpful in providing an interchange of information and a co-ordinated approach to the individual case.

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1)

1. Inspections made:

	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	3	2	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	100	28	6	0
(c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (excluding out-workers premises)	4	4	-	-
Totals	107	34	6	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary conveniences (section 7)					
Insufficient	2	1	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	9	3	-	2	-
All other defects	0	0	-	-	-
Totals	11	4	-	2	-

3. Outworkers

(1) Nature of Work	(2) No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110(1)(c).	(3) No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	(4) No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	(5) No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises	(6) Notices served	(7) Prosecutions
Making wearing apparel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Finishing tapestries	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other work	0	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	-	-	-	-	-

J.F. Fraser,
Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1967.

B O R O U G H O F P O N T E F R A C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year ended Thirty-first December, 1966.

S.C.L. WILSON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

Municipal Offices,

Pontefract.

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Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, 1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I present for your consideration the Annual Report of work carried out by the Department during 1966.

The Department's principal activities during the year were concerned with slum clearance, implementation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 and the furtherance of smoke control areas.

The Council's slum clearance drive got under way and action was initiated in respect of 95 dwellings considered to be unfit. Already the impact can be readily seen where the once familiar Prince of Wales Terrace houses are at the time of writing in the last throes of demolition. Inroad has also been made into houses in Tanshelf and this area will continue to be one of priority during the first phase of the programme which ends in 1970.

Clearance of unfit houses represents one dimension of a problem which confronts all local authorities to a greater or lesser degree. It is however a progressive problem which is prematurely reached if those dwellings capable of improvement with the installation of modern amenities such as hot water, baths and internal waterclosets are not so provided and the dwellings allowed to fall into disrepair.

By way of complementary action the Department's inspectors visited dwellings not scheduled for clearance with a view to encouraging improvement by the owners and explaining the availability of grants to carry out approved schemes.

Experience does indicate a clear tendency for tenanted houses lacking in amenities to fall into decay through neglect. Recognizing this fact the Housing Act of 1964 provides for comprehensive improvement of dwellings in selected areas by means of compulsory Area Improvement Schemes. Encouraging results to the Department's informal approaches has so far not required recourse to statutory procedure, but consideration of such action is not excluded, should circumstances warrant it.

Turning to activities in connection with the Clean Air Act 1956 the Council considered most carefully the advancement of smoke control areas and decisions taken during the year will see a further six areas becoming operative on the 1st October 1967.

The Council recognize the desirability of clean air and have achieved success in this direction by the adoption of district heating system in the more recently completed flatted dwellings in Horsefair. In the domestic field this type of scheme provides for a most sensible use of coal.

Food hygiene and food control continue to occupy a major part of the Department's day to day work. Included under this heading is the meat inspection service provided by the Council. With the change of ownership the former Municipal Abattoir became a private slaughterhouse but still operating on the same lines as that of a public slaughterhouse. Meat Inspectors continue to be in attendance on six days of the week and this aspect consumes the greater part of all time devoted by inspectors to food control in its broadest sense.

Full advantage has again been taken of the laboratory facilities available to the Department and during the year under review, 798 samples and specimens were submitted to bacteriological or chemical laboratories. These included water samples for chemical composition and bacterial condition, and swimming bath waters for bacterial condition, milks for the presence of pathogens, heat-treated milks - pasteurised - for process of efficiency, and milks and milk containers for cleanliness; specimens for confirmation of meat inspection opinions and other foods for presence or otherwise of pathogenic organisms, etc. One cannot speak too highly of the assistance received from the staff of the Public Health Laboratory service at Wakefield.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

House Provision and Overcrowding - Fitness of
Dwellings - Houses in Multi-occupation -
Certificates of Disrepair - Common Lodging Houses
- Improvement Grants

House Provision and Overcrowding

Since post-war house building began 21 years ago, some 4,479 dwellings have been erected in the Borough - 290 of these during the year under review - as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1. New Housing 1946 - 1966

Year	No. of dwellings erected*					Total
	By the Corporation			By Housing Association	By Private Enterprise	
	Permanent	Temporary	Total			
1946	6	25	31	178 536	23	54
1947	159		159		39	198
1948	161		161		26	187
1949	134		134		11	145
1950	104		104		12	116
1951	86		86		9	95
1952	105		105		11	116
1953	108		108		19	305
1954	73		73		41	650
1955	35		35		47	82
1956	26		26		65	91
1957	88		88		76	164
1958	6		6		140	146
1959	68		68		164	232
1960	107		107		192	299
1961	91		91		185	276
1962	108		108		134	242
1963	63		63		182	245
1964	34		34	180	214	
1965	85		85	209	294	
1966	156		156	134	290	
Total	1,803	25	1,828	714	1,899	4,441

*Excluding 38 temporary dwellings, subsequently demolished.

In Table 2 the number of Corporation houses built 1947-1966 is given in five-year periods for comparison with the 1966 figure of 156.

Table 2. Corporation Building, 1946-1966

Period	No. of dwellings built by Corporation	Yearly Average
1946-1950	564	113
1951-1955	407	81
1956-1960	295	59
1961-1965	381	76
Total	1,647	-

Only a detailed survey would indicate accurately the housing needs of the town. The last one was made shortly after the Housing Act of 1936 introduced specific legislation to deal with overcrowding. A second one could provide useful information of present day conditions. In the absence of precise information one can only turn to statistics relating to applicants for Corporation tenancies, although this tends to indicate demand, which is not necessarily that of actual need - which is often the more important factor.

At the end of 1966 the number of such applicants, living in the Borough was 766, many of whom, when due for investigation by the Housing Department, will have found other accommodation. Of these 766 applicants, 294 are persons living in lodgings at the time of application, and 230 are elderly persons seeking accommodation more suited to their needs; this latter group therefore represents one third of the total applicants. Only 20 of the elderly were living in lodgings, and the provision of a sufficient number of new units specific to the needs of the elderly would release much under-occupied accommodation and contribute substantially to the meeting of the general housing needs. Some 218 bungalows already provided for elderly persons, supplemented by 139 bed-sitter flats - mainly let to elderly persons - are clearly inadequate and further units are in the pipe line. Table 3 indicates the rate of progress in this direction with a considerable impetus to the figures for 1966.

Table 3. Provision of Housing Accommodation for Elderly Persons.

In the year -	No. of 'elderly person' units in the Borough	As % of all Corporation housing
1940	18	1.3
1950	32	1.7
1960	85	3.2
1963	217	7.5
1965	273	8.8
1966	357	11.2

There is an ever growing demand for the smaller housing unit designed to meet the needs of the over 65's and a small carefully planned flat or bungalow can be of incalculable benefit to the person who has reached that part of life in which there occurs a natural diminution of physical energy.

Overcrowding

In this Report 'statutory overcrowding' refers to the gross state of over-occupation which constitutes an offence under the Housing Act 1957. Such overcrowding occurs when the number of persons sleeping in a house exceeds the 'permitted number' of persons, as given in the rent book. The number of cases found and abated during the last six years are given in Table 4.

Table 4. Incidence and Abatement of Statutory Overcrowding

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
On register at beginning of year	2	1	0	1	0	0
Added to register during the year	0	1	1	1	1	1
Abated during the year	1	2	0	2	1	1
On register at end of year	1	0	1	0	0	0

These figures may appear to be impressively low and, without explanation could be misleading.

The statutory standard was laid down over a quarter of a century ago, and in my opinion, fails completely to measure up to modern ideas on the subject. Because of this low standard many families of only four or five persons, having insufficient bedroom accommodation and being clearly in need of rehousing, do not qualify for the statutory priority accorded to 'overcrowded' applicants for local authority tenancies.

Slum Clearance

The Housing Act of 1957 lays down the current standard to be applied in assessing the degree of unfitness and states that regard must be had to the following:

(a) repair, (b) stability, (c) freedom from damp, (d) natural lighting, (e) ventilation, (f) water supply, (g) drainage and sanitary conveniences and facilities for storage, preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.

In clearance areas bad arrangement on site and narrowness of streets can also be taken into account. Even those matters are limited in their application to relative environmental conditions.

This particular standard of assessment is based on recommendations first published in the 'Manual on Unfit Houses and Unhealthy Areas' by the Ministry of Health in 1919, and now some 50 years old; it takes no account of the vast changes that have taken place in the social and economic life of the nation. The standard fails to take into account the lack of amenities in existing dwellings and confines itself largely to a minimum standard of structure. Houses without internal watercloset, artificial lighting, bath and hot water can still be regarded as reasonably suitable for occupation.

The real test in my opinion ought to be the ability to provide sufficient facilities and a reasonable degree of amenity for comfortable living and to take into account also the environment in which the house is situated. Assessment of fitness should no longer depend solely on a minimum standard of structure as is the present situation. It must be conceded, however, that the remedy is not without difficulties.

A recent publication of the Central Housing Advisory Committee 'Our Older Homes - A Call for Action' is a document of prime importance and it may well be that the conclusions set out will be taken into account in framing future housing legislation. If this proves to be the case then the criticism mentioned in the preceding paragraph will be nullified and a new concept for assessing the degree of unfitness more in keeping with the times will be brought about.

During 1964 a survey of older properties in the Borough was completed and a programme for the clearance of sub-standard houses was recommended to and accepted by the Council. The programme extends over a period of ten years in two 5-year phases and is due for completion not later than 1975. In the first phase the intention is to deal primarily with Tanshelf and Prince of Wales Terrace areas.

Reference to Table 5 shows that action had been initiated in respect of 93 unfit dwellings during 1966. This brings the total of dwellings represented since the commencement of the programme to a total of 111.

Fitness of dwellings

Eleven unfit houses were demolished and four closed and 58 were repaired or improved during the year as the result of action taken by the Department. Particulars of housing activities are summarised below.

1. Inspection of houses -

(1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	818
(2) Number of inspections made in this connection (initial inspections, re-visits, work in progress, etc.)	1,419
(3) Number of houses (included in (1)) above inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	112
(4) Houses needing further action:	
(a) Number considered to be unfit for human habitation	93
(b) Number (excluding those in (a) above) considered to be not in all respects reasonably fit	52

2. Remedy of defective conditions -

(1) Houses made fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of informal action	52
(2) Houses rendered fit, or in which defects were remedied, as a result of formal action:	
(a) Housing Act	2
(b) Public Health Act	4

3. Clearance, etc. of houses -

(1) Action taken in respect of Clearance Areas:	
(a) Number of new areas declared	1
(b) Number of families displaced	43
(c) Number of houses in clearance areas demolished	9
(2) Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit Houses:	
(a) Number represented to Council	31
(b) Number in respect of which -	
(i) Demolition Orders were made	31
(ii) Closing Orders were made	2
(c) Number of houses closed on Closing Orders	4
(d) Number of individual unfit houses demolished	2
(e) Number of families displaced	31
(f) Number of persons involved	105

Between 1954 and 1966, 437 houses had been vacated and demolition or other treatment completed in 388 cases. For information purposes Table 5 gives particulars of slum clearance progress during the last five years.

Table 5. Slum Clearance 5 year Progress Report

	Yearly Progress				
	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
No. of houses in respect of which formal action was initiated -					
(a) In Clearance Areas	0	0	64	0	62
(b) Individual Unfit Houses	30	11	2	18	31
(c) Purchased by Council	2	6	0	0	0
Total	32	17	66	18	93
No. of houses vacated -					
(d) By Council rehousing	56	26	2	29	63
(e) Otherwise	1	1	0	0	11
Total	57	27	2	29	74
No. of houses in respect of which action was completed -					
(f) Closed (and not subsequently demolished)	2	16	2	6	4
(g) Demolished	47	27	11	6	11
(h) Reconstructed as fit houses	0	0	0	0	0
Total	49	43	13	12	15

Houses in Multiple Occupation

The problems arising primarily from multi-occupation occur mainly in the larger towns, and the associated squalid conditions which resulted in the passing of Part II of the Housing Act of 1961 and the Housing Regulations of 1962 and Part IV of the Housing Act 1964 are not to be found in the Borough. The bulk of the one-time high class residential property which, in old age, lends itself to multiple occupation, has largely disappeared as the result of slum clearance and commercial development.

Rent Act 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

Table 6 gives particulars of applications dealt with by the Council since the Act came into operation some ten years ago. The fact that only two applications have been received in the last five years is not without significance. Tenants seem to find the provisions of this Act relating to rent abatement either too intricate to understand or just not worth the effort. Probably a factor of equal importance in the decline of applications is the very noticeable increase in home ownership to be found in all types of property including those in potential slum clearance areas.

Table 6. Certificates of Disrepair Statistics

	1957 to 1964	1965	1966	Total
No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	36	1	-	37
No. of applications withdrawn	1	-	-	1
No. of decisions to issue certificates if no undertaking given to remedy	32	1	-	33
No. of undertakings given by landlords	23	-	-	23
No. of undertakings not accepted by Council	-	-	-	-
No. of certificates issued	9	1	-	10

Common Lodging Houses

The Ministry of Health ask for information about common lodging houses. There are no such premises in the Borough, the last having been demolished over a decade ago.

Section 235 of the Public Health Act 1936, defines a common lodging house as a house provided for the purposes of accommodating by night poor persons, not being members of the same family, who resort thereto and are allowed to occupy one common room for the purposes of sleeping or eating. There is no evidence of need for such premises in the Borough these days.

Improvement Grants

Standard Grants

In suitable cases the Standard Grant can be claimed as a right. It is intended to encourage owners to modernise houses having a useful life of at least fifteen years and to which, without major structural additions involving much new building work, there can be added the 'standard amenities' not already provided.

It has been estimated that there is probably in excess of two million homes in this country still suitable for improvement within the next ten years. This applies to the older improvable houses which lack the five 'standard amenities' - hot water supply, a fixed bath, a wash hand basin, an inside watercloset and a proper foodstore. To improve all of these dwellings would involve increasing the present rate of improvement from some one hundred and thirty thousand a year to two hundred thousand as soon as possible.

In Pontefract the 1961 census revealed that some 13% of dwellings were without fixed baths, as compared with a West Riding and National figure of 25%. Even taking into account that slum clearance will by 1975 have removed nearly 600 dwellings which, with odd exceptions, do not possess baths, and often no hot water, there will still remain an estimated 5% of the Borough's housing stock to be improved or otherwise dealt with.

Bearing these salient facts in mind it is the Department's intention to co-ordinate slum clearance and improvement action. By these means it is anticipated that by the time all unfit houses are removed there will be no dwellings in the Borough lacking in the Standard Amenities.

During 1966 letters were sent to the occupiers of potential improvement properties accompanied by an explanatory leaflet advising on grant availability. This was followed up by personal contact by the Department's Inspectors who endeavoured to encourage occupiers to take advantage of the Standard Grants coupled with advice on improvement schemes suitable for the house in question. The response has been distinctly gratifying in that more people are coming forward to take advantage of modernising their house. I am convinced that the full fruits of our activity will be seen by the end of this year in the form of a record number of grants applied for.

Voluntary improvement cannot be relied upon to achieve this in entirety and with the introduction of the Housing Act 1964 there is provided for the first time compulsory power to secure improvement in rented accommodation. Part II of the Act enables local authorities to compel owners to improve tenanted dwellings in designated 'Improvement Areas' and elsewhere at the request of the tenant. The introduction of compulsion does not mean the abandonment of voluntary improvement; indeed this is the only way of securing improvement of dwellings in owner-occupation.

Discretionary Grants

The Discretionary Grant is available for more extensive improvement, such as the formation of flats in the larger Victorian type of house. It is intended to apply to property which has a life of at least thirty years. A grant is paid solely at the discretion of the local authority and in addition to the 'standard amenities' may provide for the improvement of lighting, ventilation, heating and cooking facilities, and for works necessary to eliminate inherent structural defects.

Table 7. Applications and Grants made during 1966

Discretionary

Applications -			Grants actually made	
Made	Approved	Refused	No.	£
2	1	1	1	250

Standard

Applications -			Grants actually made	
Made	Approved	Refused	No.	£
29	29	-	19	2,046

Since grants were first available some eighteen years ago one hundred and seventy-two houses have been improved with the aid of grants from the Corporation.

Section Two

AIR POLLUTION

General Conditions - Industrial Pollution - Smoke Control Areas - Road Vehicle Pollution

General Conditions

Pontefract is officially included in the West Riding Black Area. This indicates a disturbing level of atmospheric pollution, and calls for concerted action by all classes of fuel users to minimise pollution, irrespective of source. Un-necessary smoke from industry, domestic premises, rail and road vehicles must be prevented whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Industrial Pollution

Only a few years ago it was accepted that industry was responsible for more than half the smoke emitted in the country as a whole. The latest figures available - indicate that industry, including railways - now produce less than one-fifth of the total smoke emission. It must be considerably less than this in our own Borough, which, with only 17 industrial chimneys, has no major industrial smoke pollution problem. Obviously greater progress has been made in reducing air pollution from industrial sources than by domestic smoke where discharges from low level domestic chimneys have a greater polluting effect on the air we breathe near ground level than the discharges from the higher industrial chimneys.

Smoke Control Areas

There are two smoke control areas in operation in the Borough. The following Table gives particulars of buildings and acreage involved.

Table 8. Smoke Control Area Progress

No. of operative Orders	No. of premises				% of houses in Borough	Area in Acres	% of acreage in Borough
	Houses	Industrial	Commercial etc.	Total			
2	927	20	110	1,057	10.2	6.11	12.5

The No. 2 Smoke Control Order was brought into operation in 1962.

During 1966 the Council gave careful consideration to the creation of further smoke control areas. Work commenced during the year will bring into operation on the 1st October 1967 a further six smoke control areas. Whilst these are largely in respect of proposed new housing developments in the Borough a further two areas of existing houses are under survey with a view to consideration at a later date.

The Council have always acknowledged the desirability of achieving clean air and are actively connected with the West Riding Clean Air Council. In common with other local authorities in the West Riding where the basic industry is closely connected with coal mining, actions have to be tempered by the local social and economic factors involved in introducing a programme of smoke control. In this context problems relating to 'concessionary coal' and the encouragement of continued use of solid smokeless fuels attains a high degree of priority.

The Council have pursued with vigour schemes which would use coal to advantage not least by examining the viability of introducing district heating in new Corporation estates. A notable achievement in this direction has been achieved in the Horsefair Flats where some 250 dwellings now operate smokelessly thus contributing to a cleaner town centre and providing tenants with a standard of domestic comfort and warmth which measures up to that advocated in the Parker-Morris Report.

Since the White Paper on Domestic Fuel Supplies in 1963 the National Coal Board and private producers have redoubled their energies in the field of premium fuel production to such good effect that the estimates in the White Paper are no longer valid and in March 1965 the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 13/65 stated that supplies of these fuels would be adequate to meet any foreseeable demand.

In January 1966 the Minister of Housing and Local Government in a letter to 'black area' authorities expressed his concern at those who had taken little or no action in the control of domestic pollution and asked that they review the matter with a view to accelerating progress in this important aspect of public health. In the light of response to his request the Minister will decide whether he should seek an opportunity of asking Parliament to make smoke control a statutory duty.

An immense task faces all authorities in 'black areas' who like ourselves, have not progressed sufficiently in establishing smoke control areas. It is a task which may eventually have to be undertaken without option.

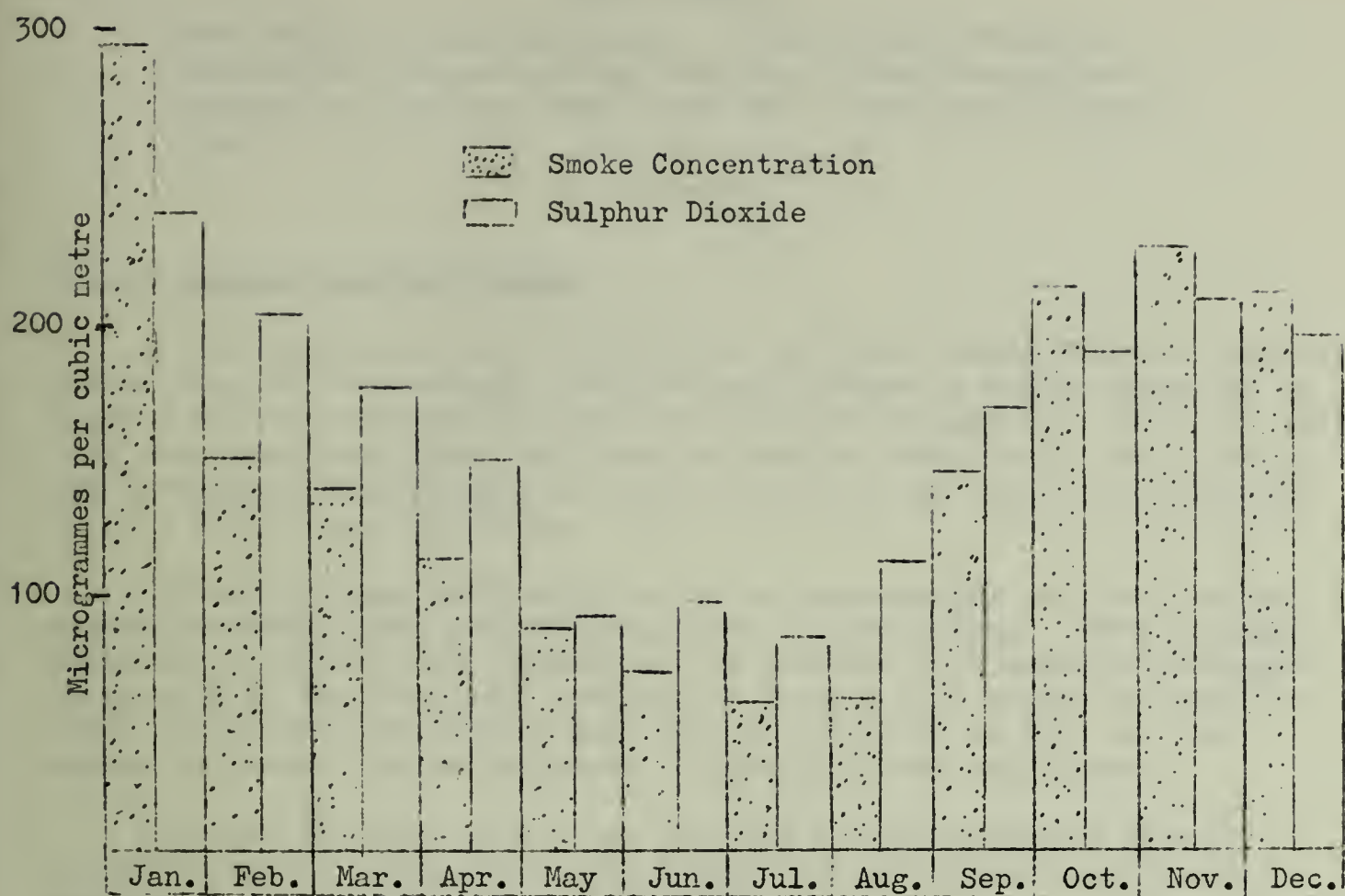
Road Vehicle Pollution

Unlike railway smoke, road vehicle pollution is not dealt with under the Clean Air Act, but by Regulations made under the Road Traffic Act and administered by the Police. Since April 1967, Regulations have required every motor vehicle to be so constructed that no avoidable smoke is emitted. Regulations made in 1957 require that no person shall use any vehicle from which smoke is emitted which is likely to cause danger to property or injure or cause damage to a road user. Further Regulations were made controlling the use of excess fuel starting devices. One perhaps hears too infrequently of offenders being taken to Court, but it must be conceded that the statutory approach to the problem of road vehicle pollution is foremost that of public safety and not of public health.

Atmospheric Pollution Records

The recording of atmospheric pollution was re-commenced during 1964 after a lapse occasioned by the scepticism of scientific authorities regarding the accuracy of old types of instruments formerly in widespread use.

More acceptable is the volumetric type of apparatus for the measurement of suspended impurity of which there are now three in use to sample daily the air in different parts of the town. In the accompanying histogram, readings in the town centre during 1966 clearly show a wide variation between winter and summer levels of pollution.



Section Three

FOOD HYGIENE

Meat Supply - Meat Inspection - Milk and Milk Products -
General Food Inspection and Sampling - Food Premises and
Processing - Sale of Food in the Open - Disposal of Unfit
Food

Public Abattoir and Meat Supply

Without doubt the year 1966 saw the most significant change of Council policy when, due to economic and financial factors it became necessary to dispose of the Municipal Abattoir, to a private wholesaler. Prior to this step every avenue of trade had been explored in order to try and increase the throughput substantially in order to prevent the premises continuing to be a burden upon the rates.

Ultimately these efforts proved to be unsuccessful and the premises changed ownership upon satisfactory terms and conditions. From a local authority standpoint the function of the premises will continue unchanged in as much as the usage will continue to be that of a public abattoir in which all animals and carcase meat will be subjected to ante and post mortem inspection by the Department's qualified meat inspectors.

Consequently there will be no need for any supplementary private slaughtering enterprise within the Borough and the proper supervision of activities will be effectively maintained.

During the year under review a total of 4,926 cattle units were slaughtered as compared with 5,413 in 1965. The service of one hundred per cent meat inspection continued and all carcase meat and offals from the Abattoir finding their way into the shops of local users could be guaranteed free from disease. This type of service and the more modern concepts of hygienic meat preparation were deserving of better support. However with economic trends encouraging the development of large wholesaling enterprises and multiple trading concerns, combined with the decline in the number of small retail butchers the pattern for the future of the meat industry is probably cast.

Table 9. Throughput - Yearly periods during the period of Municipal Control.

Year	Throughput	
	Total No. of Cattle Units	Weekly average No. of cattle units*
1955	2,503	43
1956	3,238	62
1957	3,168	60
1958	3,405	65
1959	3,340	64
1960	3,216	61
1961	4,625	89
1962	5,757	110
1963	5,638	108
1964	5,971	115
1965	5,413	104
1966	4,926	94

One cattle unit is equivalent to three calves, five sheep or two pigs

Meat Inspection

The most important aspect of the meat inspection service during the year continued to be the impact of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963. Local Authorities, by these Regulations, are required to implement a complete and efficient meat inspection service covering abattoirs in their district. The Regulations are designed to achieve 100% inspection of carcase meat and offal in areas where previously it had not been possible; this did not affect the Department as a full and proper inspection service has always been maintained. Procedure for inspection, however, does call for a greater length of time to be spent at the Abattoir and it is usual for inspectors engaged on meat inspection to be present during the hours of slaughter, and also to ensure that ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations are efficiently carried out.

During 1966 six whole carcasses were condemned, In each case the animal had been sent in for emergency slaughter. Subsequent post-mortem condition supported by bacteriological enquiry confirmed their inadmissibility for human consumption and accordingly they were rejected.

Tuberculosis

The following Table shows the remarkable decline in the incidence of tuberculosis - a credit to all those concerned in its eradication. When the disease is detected in bovines the facts are reported to the Animals Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food whose veterinary officers trace the animal back to the original herd where further detailed examinations take place in order to eradicate any other showing symptoms of the disease.

Table 10. Incidence of Tuberculosis in Food Animals during the past 16 years

Incidence of Tuberculosis	Year			
	1950	1955	1960	1966
% of animals affected -				
Cattle excluding cows	17.8	9.3	0.7	-
Cows	50.8	16.3	4.1	-
Pigs	5.9	2.1	0.7	0.29

Cysticercosis Bovis

Six beast carcasses found to be affected with cysticercosis give a percentage incidence of 0.40. In all cases cysts were found to be viable and localised in extent and were subsequently treated by refrigeration. Table 11a gives comparative figures of incidence over the past five years.

Table 10a. Incidence of Cysticercosis Bovis

Year	No. of cases	% Incidence
1962	12	0.63
1963	19	1.15
1964	17	0.92
1965	4	0.24
1966	6	0.40

All Diseases

A total of six carcasses, 15 part carcasses, 483 organs and parts were condemned, their total weight being 1 ton, 3 cwts. 1 qtr. and 24 lbs. Table 11 gives particulars of the various classes of animals inspected and of condemnation.

Table 11. Record of Meat Inspection and Incidence of Disease

Class of Animal	Cattle (excluding Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,310	55	19	4,912	5,145
Number inspected	1,310	55	19	4,912	5,145
All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci:					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	4	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	153	3	-	77	287
% of animals inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.6	5.4	-	1.6	5.6
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	15
% of animals inspected affected with tubercu- losis	-	-	-	-	0.2
Cysticerci:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Causes of Condemnation of whole carcasses

1 sheep - Multiple abscesses
1 sheep - Septicaemia
1 sheep - Emaciation and Oedema
1 sheep - Pregnancy Toxaemia and Emaciation

1 Pig - Hydraemia and Bruising
1 Pig - Septic Pericarditis

Milk Supply

As required by Article 8 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959, a register is kept of all persons carrying on the trade of milk distributor from premises in the Borough, and of all premises in the district which are used as dairies (except dairy farms, which are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food). Table 12 gives particulars of the changes made during the year and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 12. Registration of Dairies and Milk Distributors

Particulars of changes	Dairies	Distributors	
		From Shops*	Others
No. on register at 1st January	4	37	10
No. in respect of which new applications were made	1	10	-
No. removed from register - Trading ceased	2	6	2
No. on register at 31st December	3	41	8

*Only bottled 'sterilised' sold in these cases.

Generally, the standard of distribution is satisfactory. Minor violations of the Milk and Dairies Regulations in relation to storage and distribution have not necessitated formal action. Conditions at dairies were reasonably satisfactory.

Twenty-six samples of pasteurised milk, either in bottle or carton, ready for sale, were taken during the course of the year for examination for compliance with the standards laid down by the Regulations. All were satisfactory. No untreated or raw milk is sold in the Borough and no investigations for *Brucella Abortus* were undertaken.

In addition to sampling milk, washed milk bottles and milk churn rinses were taken periodically from the local bottling dairy for bacteriological examination and proved to be generally satisfactory. Despite elaborate precautions, the odd dirty bottle - so mis-used by a consumer - that the most efficient of washing machines fails to clean it, gets through to the next consumer. If the economics of the industry would allow it, a change-over to non-returnable cartons would solve this and other allied problems.

Table 13. Milk Churns and Bottles Examined for Efficiency of Cleaning

Type of Container	No. Examined	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Churns	23	20	3
Bottles	12	12	-

Ice-Cream Manufacture and Sale

As required by Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, an ice-cream register is kept of all premises used for the sale, manufacture and storage

for sale of ice-cream. Table 14 sets out the position during the year.

Table 14. Registration of Ice-Cream Premises

Particulars of changes	Sale and storage	Manufacture, sale and storage
No. on register at 1st January	103	2
No. in respect of which new applications were made	-	-
No. of registrations cancelled	13	-
No. of changes in occupation	-	-
No. on register at 31st December	90	2

The two registered ice-cream factories are no longer used for manufacturing purposes, and all ice-cream sold in the Borough is made elsewhere. Nine manufacturers are registered to sell their ice-cream from vehicles in the Borough. Such vehicles must meet the standard laid down by statute and included is the provision of a hot water for hand washing and other measures for preventing contamination of ice-cream.

There is no test for the bacteriological grading of ice-cream which is considered satisfactory for use as a statutory test, but on the Provisional Grading at present in use, the samples of ice-cream (all manufactured outside the Borough) taken during the year may be grouped as follows:

Table 15. Ice-Cream Grading (Methylene Blue Test)

Grades	Official Standard	Local figures for year 1966	
		No.	Percentage
1	Not less than 50%	24	86%
1 and 2	Not less than 80%	26	93%
3	Not more than 20%	2	7%
4	Nil	-	-

General Food Inspection and Sampling

In addition to the inspection of meat at the Abattoir, shops were visited from time to time for the inspection of meat and other foods. During the period under review the following total quantities of unfit food were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

1,040 lbs. tinned meats
 210 lbs. biscuits
 152 lbs. cooked meats
 151 lbs. frozen foods
 146 lbs. carcass meat
 146 lbs. tinned vegetables
 118 lbs. tinned fruit
 82 lbs. cheese.
 90 lbs. various foods

Total weight - 19 cwt. and 7 lbs.

Certificates were issued to traders in 142 cases, enabling them to claim from wholesalers for loss of foods condemned.

Bacteriological Examination of Foods and Prepared Swabs

During 1966 systematic sampling of food for bacteriological purposes continued as in previous years; the results obtained, although of no statutory significance, provided the Department with much useful information.

Table 16. Articles of Food Submitted to Bacteriological Examination

	No. of samples	Results		% satisfactory
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Meat or Meat Products	49	43	6	87%
Cream and Custard Products	29	23	6	79%
Dressed Crab	11	10	1	91%
Coconut	5	5	-	100%
Misc. Foods	7	7	-	100%
Totals	101	88	13	87%

All the foods referred to in Table 16 were sampled by purchasing in shops precisely in the same manner as a customer would make a purchase. Although thirteen articles were classified as unsatisfactory no pathogenic organisms were detected.

There are no statutory standards by which the bacteriological condition can be assessed but it is generally accepted that in foodstuffs a bacteriological report indicating a 'heavy or good growth' of organisms rather implies that the organisms are excessive especially with cooked foods. When counts are found to be over 100,000 per gramme in raw or cooked foods then an unsatisfactory result is recorded in the Table. An unsatisfactory classification tends to indicate unsatisfactory handling or preparation or subsequent unsatisfactory storage of the article of food thus providing sufficient evidence for the Inspector to carry out further detailed investigations into one or all of these aspects.

Equipment Swabbing

From time to time the swabbing of equipment and working surfaces in food premises is undertaken and provides information on the effectiveness of cleaning operations in those premises. Any unsatisfactory results are followed up by advice and further tests to ensure compliance with recommendations.

Table 17. Equipment Swabbing

No. of samples	Results		% satisfactory
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
48	38	10	79%

With the swabbing of utensils, crockery and work and wall surfaces a good result would be regarded as less than 100 colonies per swab and between 100 and 1,000 probably reasonable. In excess of the latter figure then the result may be regarded as unsatisfactory. Should the presence of pathogenic organisms be detected then it becomes a matter of considerable concern and calls for concerted action by the food worker and public health inspector alike.

It is fair comment to say that in all cases calling for further investigation inspectors have received maximum co-operation from management and represents a very practical and valuable contribution to health education.

Sewer Swabbing

It has become an established practice in the Department to place in sewers and dykes in the Borough, swabs specially prepared by the Public Health Laboratory Service. These are removed after 48 hours and examined for evidence of pathogenic organisms. During 1966, two samples produced evidence of the presence of such organisms. The origin of the specific organisms in each case was traced and the correct use of bactericidal agents eliminated further dissemination.

Table 17(a). Sewer Swabs

No. of samples	Results		% satisfactory
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
85	83	2	97%

Food Premises

The conditions under which food for sale is prepared and handled in the factories, warehouses, shops, restaurants and hotels in the Borough occupies much of the Department's time.

The numbers of the different classes of food premises as at the end of the year under review are given in Table 18 overleaf. Of the 310 total premises, 110 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955; 90 of these, as already indicated, are ice-cream premises, the remaining twenty being registered for the manufacture of made-up meats, etc.

Table 13. Food Premises according to trade at end of year

Class of Premises	Manufacture or Preparation	Distribution	Total	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1950		
				No. complying with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. complying with Reg. 19
General Grocery	-	75	75	75	75	75
Bread and Confectionery	7	9	16	16	16	16
Sugar Confectionery	2	20	22	22	22	22
Greengrocer, fish, game and poultry	3	12	15	15	15	15
Butcher and Meat Preparation	20	22	42	42	42	42
Chemists	-	6	6	6	6	6
Fish Frying	17	-	17	17	17	17
Public Houses and Clubs	-	53	53	53	53	53
Off Licence premises	-	7	7	7	7	7
Cafes, Snack Bars and Canteens	36	-	36	36	36	36
Church premises (kitchens)	6	-	6	6	6	6
Beer and Mineral water bottling	3	-	3	3	3	3
Miscellaneous	3	9	12	12	12	12
Totals	97	213	310	310	310	310

In food premises a high standard of food hygiene can be obtained providing the basic needs of adequate accommodation and service are satisfied. Generally premises in the Borough are satisfactory although a minority demand constant attention. The decline in the number of offences recorded does I believe reflect the intent of the occupiers of food premises to devote an ever increasing amount of attention to hygiene.

Table 19 gives figures indicative of the Department's activities in this field during 1966 and for comparison the figures for 1964 and 1965 are also given.

Table 19. Inspection of Food Premises

Year	No. of visits paid to food premises	No. of food rooms inspected	No. of offences noted under Food Hygiene Regulations	No. of offences outstanding at end of year
1964	317	871	244	84
1965	366	915	239	157
1966	321	859	115	69

Sale of Food in the Open Air

As required by Section 76(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, registers are kept of persons hawking food in the Borough and hawkers' storage premises. Table 20 gives particulars of the changes made during 1966 and of the position at the end of the year.

Table 20. Food Hawkers according to Trade

	At 1st January 1966	Added during 1966	Registrations cancelled	Registrations revoked	At 31st December 1966
Butcher	8	-	-	-	8
Butcher and Grocer	2	-	-	-	2
Greengrocer	14	3	-	-	17
Greengrocer and Fishmonger	4	-	-	-	4
Greengrocer and Confectioner	1	-	-	-	1
Grocer and Confectionery	7	-	-	-	7
Bread and Confectioner	4	-	-	-	4
Ice-Cream	9	5	-	-	14
Fishmonger	6	-	-	-	6
Fish and Chips	2	-	-	-	2
Hot-dogs	2	-	-	2	-
Grocer, Butcher and Fishmonger	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	60	8	-	2	66
Storage Premises	3	-	-	-	3

In Table 19 reference is made to two registrations which were revoked following offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The trade concerned was that of the preparation and sale of hot-dogs. One ice-cream hawker was successfully prosecuted for infringements of the Regulations on four counts and was fined a total of £20.

In matters of food hygiene the Department's inspectors experience most difficulty in keeping track of mobile shops. I am of opinion that a system of annual licensing would be more useful and administratively more acceptable than the present system of registration.

Disposal of Unfit Food

All unfit food should be disposed of in such a manner that it cannot later, by accident or otherwise, be used for human consumption. In particular the disposal of diseased meat from slaughterhouses and all knacker meat, must be under strict control.

The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations 1960 require, with certain exceptions, that unfit meat shall be sterilised, and all knacker meat stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution as pet food, or for processing for any purpose. The principal exception is unfit meat from slaughterhouses which do not have their own sterilisation plant; such meat must be sent to processors under arrangements approved by the appropriate public health officers.

A great deal of unfit meat is brought into the Borough for sterilisation at factories referred to later in this Report under the heading of Offensive Trades. Co-ordination between the Department and the source authorities has been maintained; every effort has been made to ensure compliance with the Regulations at all collection points. I am satisfied that the chances of unfit meat being delivered into the wrong channels are remote.

Section Four

OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE - SAFETY AND WELFARE

Factories - Outworkers - Offices - Shops -
Other Workplaces

The Department shares responsibility for hygiene and welfare in places of employment with the Factory Inspectorate of the Home Office. So far as non-industrial premises are concerned recent legislation in the form of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act of 1963 has increased considerably the local authority's responsibilities. Standards have been prescribed by Act and Regulations made thereunder and in the year under review work was primarily concerned with ensuring that all registered premises complied with the requirements of the Act as previously advised by the Department.

Implementation of the Act calls for a special report to be submitted to the Ministry of Labour annually on matters of information and work carried out by the Local Authority Inspectorate, in enforcing the Act and its Regulations and a more comprehensive Report was given under separate cover earlier this year.

Factories

The term 'factory' as used in the Factories Act of 1937, includes all premises where articles are made, altered or repaired for purposes of gain, and I append a list of the different trades carried on at factories in the Borough:

Automobile engineering	Furniture manufacture and
Baking	polishing
Barley processing	Glue and size making
Beer and mineral water	Grain and seed processing
bottling	Laundering
Blacksmithery	Liquorice confectionery
Boot repairing	manufacture and packing
Box and packing material	Malting
manufacture	Milk pasteurisation
Brush making	Monumental masonry
Building	Photography
Brick manufacture	Precision engineering
Cattle food manufacture	Printing
Clothes manufacture	Slaughter of food animals
Coal-gas distribution	Tailoring
Engineering	Tinsmithery
Fat refining	Upholstery
Fellmongering	Whitesmithery
Founding	

The register of factories, kept by the Council pursuant to section 8(3) of the Act, contains particulars of 107 factories and Building Sites and Table 21 gives information relating to inspections, notices and defects found and remedied.

Table 21. Factories Records - 1966

	No. on Register	Inspections made	No. of written notices	Defects	
				Found	Remedied
Factories without mechanical power (secs. 1 to 4 and 6 and 7 of the Act enforced by L.A.)	3	2	-	-	-
Factories with mechanical power (sec. 7 enforced by L.A.)	100	28	6	13	4
Totals	103	30	6	13	4
Other premises (sec. 7 enforced by L.A.)	4	4	-	-	-
Totals	107	34	6	13	4

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During 1966 detailed general inspections continued as did a considerable number of re-visits to check on works put in hand by employers. The only registered premises not to have received a general inspection were those in covered markets to which special Regulations will apply in due course and are not required to be inspected at the present time.

Of the 253 premises visited during 1966, 147 failed to comply with the Act in some respect at the time of the inspection. In many cases the deficiency amounted to little more than the absence of a thermometer, but in other cases the cumulative effect of several defective conditions was of much greater import and has, in extreme cases, called for major structural alterations.

APPENDIX

Prescribed Statistical Information in accordance with the
Offices. Shops and Railway Premises Annual Reports Order, 1964

TABLE A - REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	6	79	60
Retail Shops	14	196	156
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	11	7
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	3	44	30
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-
Totals	23	331	253

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY
INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

359

TABLE C - ANALYSIS OF RECORDED PARTICULARS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	770
Retail shops	1,062
Wholesale departments, warehouses	93
Catering establishments open to the public	250
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	2,176
<u>Total Males</u>	877
<u>Total Females</u>	1,299

Summary of Offences at end of 1966
(The equivalent figure for 1965 is in parenthesis)

<u>Section or Regulation of the Act</u>	<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>No. of recorded offences</u>	
4	Cleanliness	75	(97)
5	Overcrowding	1	(6)
4 and 16	Cleanliness and maintenance of floors and steps	26	(24)
6	Temperature	43	(98)
7	Ventilation	10	(16)
8	Lighting	42	(238)
9 (Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964)	Sanitary conveniences	51	(165)
10 (Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964)	Washing facilities	37	(82)
11	Supply of Drinking Water	1	(8)
12	Accommodation for clothing	2	(3)
13	Sitting facilities	1	(9)
14	Seating for sedentary work	-	(-)
15	Eating facilities	6	(5)
16	Safety aspect of floors, passages and stairs	54	(167)
17 (Dangerous Machines Order, 1964)	Fencing of exposed parts of machinery	7	(8)
18	Avoidance of exposure of young persons to danger in cleaning machinery	-	(1)
23	Prohibition of heavy work	-	(-)
24 (First-Aid Order, 1964)	First-Aid: General provisions	23	(104)
49	Registration	1	(5)
50 (The Information for Employees Regulations, 1965)	Provision of Abstract of the Act	43	(160)
Totals		423	(1,196)

No. of premises on register at year end 31st December (1)	No. of premises receiving general inspection (2)	Total No. of rooms inspected (3)	No. of recorded offences (4)	No. of premises that complied with the Act (5)
(1964) 318	36	171	369	0
(1965) 316	254	978	1,196	15
(1966) 331	253	580	423	106

Section Five

HYGIENE IN PLACES OF PUBLIC RESORT

Swimming Baths - Refreshment Houses - Hairdressing Premises

Public Swimming Baths - Bacterial Control of Water

The two swimming baths (adults' and childrens' indoor baths) are filled at the beginning of each season from the public supply, and operates on the continuous filtration system, with sterilisation by chlorination. Samples were taken regularly to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions. Sixty samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and chemical tests made on each sampling occasion to check 'free chlorine' content and alkalinity. The results given in Table 22, along with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health, indicate the satisfactory standard attained during the year.

The tremendous popularity and increase in usage of the existing plunge clearly indicate that these results can only have been maintained by the strictest vigil of the Baths' Manager and his staff and credit is due to them.

Table 22. Swimming Baths Water: Results of Examinations

	Standard recommended by Ministry of Health	Results from Baths	
		Large Swim	Small Swim
No. of samples taken	-	30	30
No. of samples containing coliform organisms in 100 ml. water	0	1	0
Percentage of number of samples submitted to plate count and containing in 1 ml. water -			
(a) 0 - 10 colonies	not less than 75%	80%	83%
(b) 11 - 100 colonies	not more than 25%	20%	17%
(c) over 100 colonies	None	-	-
% of number of tests for residual chlorine content showing			
(a) less than 0.2 ppm	0	-	-
(b) 0.2 ppm or more	100%	100%	100%
% of number of tests for pH value alkalinity -			
(a) between 7.2 and 8.0	100%	100%	100%
(b) outside these limits	0	-	-

Paddling Pool

The paddling pool in the Valley Gardens has proved to be a popular addition to the Gardens. Frequency of water changes, and methods of bacterial and algal control, have been recommended to the Parks' Department and the efficiency of these is checked regularly during the summer months.

Refreshment Houses

Under this heading I refer to all restaurants, public houses and clubs. When these premises are visited under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, inspection is made at the same time for adequacy of toilet facilities under section 89 of the Public Health Act 1936. Conditions were generally satisfactory. In several instances informal recommendations secured improvements.

Hairdressers and Barbers' Premises

As required by Section 120(1) of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951, a register is kept of persons carrying on the business of hairdresser or barber on premises in the Borough. Table 23 gives the numbers of such establishments and indicates the changes during and the position at the close of the year.

Table 23. Registration of Hairdressers and Barbers

Particulars of changes	Premises	Persons
No. on Register at 1st January	39	44
No. of entries added during 1966	5	6
No. of entries removed	4	4
No. on Register at 31st December	40	46

Forty premises were inspected during 1966 and a high standard of hygiene was noted, particularly in the Ladies' Establishments.

Section Six

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Water Supply - Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

Water Supply

On 1st April 1962, the Corporation's Water Undertaken was transferred to the newly-formed Pontefract, Goole and Selby Water Board. Before the take-over it had been the practice of the Chief Public Health Inspector to sample at the several sources and record and classify the results in this Report. Whilst the Corporation no longer supplies water, it is still very much its concern that the water supplied within the Borough shall be satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Sampling within the Borough has therefore continued, and all waters taken for chemical analysis were reported upon as being of good organic quality.

During the year under review some 257 samples of piped water were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Of the samples taken 24 were reported as unsatisfactory. All these occurred during the month of July. At the instigation of the Water Board and with their complete co-operation the Department carried out all necessary investigations to ascertain the cause of the unsatisfactory results; at the same time the Water Board took all practicable measures to protect the public water supplies.

Mr. R. Hughes, one of the Department's senior inspectors was in charge of the investigation and he subsequently isolated the cause at the Water Towers at Knottingley and Pontefract and discovered that birds had gained access to the storage areas and had contaminated the water thus giving rise to the batch of unsatisfactory results.

Quick and efficient action by Water Board staff eliminated all traces of contamination and ensured that there would be no future recurrence. Since that time repeated samples throughout the Borough have produced satisfactory bacteriological results.

All of the 9,397 dwellinghouses in the Borough are connected to the public supply and have water available within each dwelling; there are none supplied by standpipe.

In the matter of supply, occasional difficulty in maintaining water pressures has occurred, particularly at times of peak demand. It is anticipated that this will be resolved when a major development scheme prepared by the Water Board is eventually brought into operation.

A typical report on a sample of water is given as follows:

				<u>Parts per million</u>
Total Solids	...	...	...	280
Chloride	...	...	...	27
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	...	...	...	124
Total Hardness	...	...	...	180
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	56
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	124
Lead, Copper, Zinc	...	...	...	Nil
Iron	...	...	...	0.2
Manganese	...	...	...	Nil
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	2.25
Fluorine	...	...	...	Nil
		pH	...	7.4

Sewerage, Drainage and Sewage Disposal

The Borough is well sewered, there being only 50 properties not served by public sewer. Twelve properties in the Borough are served by private disposal plants, 38 by cesspools and the remainder representing 99% of the total, are connected to public sewerage. Sanitary accommodation of the conservancy type (mainly chemical) exists at only nine houses and at three other properties.

By 1969 it is expected that the Joint Treatment Works at Brotherton will become operational and the existing local authority operated sewage disposal plant at Knottingley Road will be abandoned by reason of its inadequate capacity and obsolescence.

Section Seven

PREVENTION AND ABATEMENT OF NUISANCE

Control of Offensive Trades - Animal Hygiene - Noise
Abatement - Moveable Dwellings - Rag Flock and Other
Filling Materials

Control of Offensive Trades

Offensive trades within the meaning of section 107(1)(i) of the Public Health Act 1936, are carried on at two premises in the Borough, the trades concerned being those of bone boiler, fat extractor, fat melter, fellmonger, glue maker and size maker. A further trade carried on is the concentration and sterilisation of vegetable and animal waste, declared by the Council to be an offensive trade pursuant to their powers under paragraph (ii)(b) of the sub-section.

These trades provide a necessary and valuable public health service. Without the presence of these trades organic waste would be a source of acute embarrassment to the meat trades in particular. Large quantities of waste organic material, some of it already in an advanced state of decay, are brought on to these premises and not only rendered innocuous, but converted into useful commodities.

Steps are taken to control the various processes and to prevent the escape of offensive gases generated in the course of processing. The complex and variable nature of the raw material received renders constant care necessary; the management must be on the alert for the first indication of the escape of offensive effluvium, and thereupon adjust the plant controls accordingly. There is no alternative to this empirical approach. Largely because those responsible become accustomed to the characteristic odour of the trade, the need for this adjustment is sometimes appreciated later than necessary to prevent abnormal odour in the neighbourhood.

During 1966 strict and regular attention was given to the two firms concerned in these trades. Some 63 detailed inspections in addition to many snap inspections were undertaken.

The Corporation have taken all reasonably practicable measures to control offensive trades. The management concerned are anxious not to cause offence, and give considerable attention to improvement of the plant and the processes carried on.

Animal Hygiene

Apart from the nuisance potential of animals kept under unsatisfactory conditions, animal diseases may effect, directly or indirectly the public health. The control of conditions, therefore, under which animals are kept, whether they be animals on sale in pet shops, or food animals awaiting slaughter, or animals on agricultural holdings, is a matter which must concern the Department.

The Pet Animals Act 1951

This Act, provides for the licensing of pet shops by the local authority who, before granting a licence must be satisfied that animals for sale will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness; be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals; that precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of diseases among animals, and that steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency. There are two licensed premises in the Borough, at which satisfactory conditions obtained during the year.

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

Requirements of the Act are somewhat similar to those contained in the Pet Animals Act. Administration of the Act is made the responsibility of the Local Authority who must be satisfied that animals will be kept in accommodation suitable as respects size, temperature, lighting, ventilation, cleanliness, be adequately supplied with suitable food and drink and visited and exercised at suitable intervals, and ensure that suitable steps will be taken in case of fire or other emergency.

During the year one licence was issued in respect of premises to be used for the boarding of dogs.

Inspections were made from time to time and on each occasion the business was found to be well conducted.

Riding Establishments Act 1964

During the year under review only one establishment situated in Townville was licensed for use. No complaints have been made regarding the manner in which they are conducted.

Noise Abatement

For many years Byelaws relating to noise nuisance have been in force in the Borough, dealing with such matters as sounding musical instruments or singing in the streets to the annoyance of occupants of houses, offices, churches or hospitals. In 1951 the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act of 1960 provided legislation on similar lines and restricted the use of loudspeakers in the streets.

One fairly persistently reported problem was in connection with noise from animals. It is often most difficult for local authority's officers to establish that a nuisance exists in these cases and those persons most closely involved have to resort to private action if they feel sufficiently aggrieved.

A series of complaints were made during the year from residents in a row of houses adjacent to railway sidings at Baghill Station. The complaints related to the heating of rail tankers containing bitumen. The noise was of a vibrating nature and during the night and early morning greatly disturbed the sleep of the nearby residents. The process was not a continual one and it meant that in order to establish the existence of a nuisance, inspectors had to resort to periods of vigil during the night or early morning. Subsequent representations to the operators of the rail cars, based on the Department's findings, resulted in a period of experimentation with silencer sleeves attached to the flue outlets of the fire tubes. After some modifications these proved successful in reducing the noise emanating from the rail tankers, although vigilance is still called for to ensure that other ancillary equipment on site such as fuel oil compressors does not cause any unnecessary noise.

Moveable Dwellings

Control of caravans is exercised by way of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act of 1960, and by way of the West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951. In the former case control can be exercised by both Planning and Local Authorities in connection with site licensing. The function of the West Riding Act is to prohibit the use in certain cases sites frequented by itinerant dwellers. One such site is designated in the Borough and since the date of the making of the Order early in 1965 it has been kept free of caravans.

There appears to be no demand for a permanent caravan site in the Borough and inspections have only involved gypsy type caravans which from time to time frequent the lanes on the Borough boundary often give rise to complaint from nearby residents.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act of 1951 is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles, and during 1962 Regulations were made under this Act, superseding earlier Regulations, and bringing up-to-date the standards of cleanliness required in relation to the several kinds of filling materials to which the Act applies.

The Act provides for the registration by the local authority of premises upon which filling materials are used in manufacturing articles of upholstery, and one such factory is registered with the Council. Regular inspections are made including the taking of samples for analysis and all the samples were reported upon as satisfactory.

PEST CONTROL

Rodent Control Service - Verminous Infestation

Rodent Control Service

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act of 1949 so far as this Act relates to rodent infestation. Routine measures were taken to ensure, so far as practicable, the freedom from infestation of all premises in their own occupation; owners and occupiers of infested properties were required to face up to their responsibilities under the Act and a Rodent Control Service was maintained by the Corporation, available to householders free of charge and to others at a charge which covers the cost of treatment.

The Act places on local authorities a specific duty to inspect their district for infestation, and for much of his time the senior rodent operative was engaged on the discovery of infestations, and the organisation of treatments on 'block control' principles. Table 24 gives statistics relating to the known incidence of infestations and to disinfection measures taken during 1966.

Table 24. Rodent Control Statistics

Properties	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
No. of premises in the district	10,623	32
Number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	457	-
No. infested by (i) Rats	242	-
(ii) Mice	112	-
Number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	79	5
No. infested by (i) Rats	67	5
(ii) Mice	12	-

Reports in certain parts of the country show that reserves of rats have become immune to the poison 'Warfarin' probably the most common method of control exercised at the present time. 'Warfarin' is an anti-coagulant and has been very successful in reducing the rodent population in recent years. There is no evidence in the Borough that rodents have become immune and its use is continued alongside older established poisoning techniques.

Treatment of sewers in the Borough has been undertaken and 50% of the sewers are examined each year. Results have indicated that the sewerage system is relatively free from infestation and any minor influx of rodents were dealt with by treating with Sodium Fluorocetamide.

Verminous Premises

During the year three houses were treated for verminous or suspected verminous infestation. Two of these were Corporation houses.

In several cases people produced insects at the Department for identification, but in none was there any public health problem.

Section Nine

ADMINISTRATION AND RECORDS

Tabular Statement of Inspections made and Notices served - Establishment

The Public Health Officers Regulations require the recording of inspections made, the preparation of a tabular statement relating to the number and nature of these, to notices served and the results obtained. I have given as accurate a picture as possible in the statement; but when, at one visit, premises are dealt with comprehensively under two or more headings, difficulties in recording can arise.

Table 25. Nature and Number of Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors and assistant staff during 1966.

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Number made</u>
Housing Inspections and Enquiries:	
For unfitness, repair or demolition of unfit houses	1,066
Improvement with grant aid	79
Area Improvement	274
Following applications under Rent Act for certificates of disrepair	-
Overcrowding and computation of 'permitted numbers'	2
Investigations into multiple occupation	-
Air Pollution Inspections and Enquiries:	
Industrial smoke observations	32
Inspection of boiler plant	30
Investigations of smoke nuisances (section 16)	19
Smoke control area enquiries	144
Food Hygiene Inspection and Enquiries:	
Visits to Abattoir for meat inspection	684
Number of carcasses examined	11,441
Visits to shops for meat inspection	25
Investigations under Milk and Dairies Regulations	32
Sampling of milks and containers (for biological and bacteriological examinations)	35
General Food Inspection and sampling	139
Investigations into sale of food in the open air	305
Visits to food premises -	
Investigations under Food Hygiene Regulations	321
No. of food rooms inspected	859
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act:	
All enquiries and inspections	359

<u>Nature of Inspections</u>	<u>Number made</u>
Occupational Hygiene Inspections and Enquiries:	
For staff welfare in -	
Factories	34
Other works (building sites)	4
Outworkers' premises	4
Visits to Places of Public Resort:	
Swimming Baths, water sampling	60
Sanitary Accommodation, inspection under Section 89 of Public Health Act 1936	36
Inspection of Hairdressing Establishments (West Riding County Council (General Powers) Act 1951)	40
Hygiene and the Public Health Services:	
Water supply, investigations and sampling	372
Refuse Collection and Disposal, inspections and enquiries	71
Sewerage and Sewage disposal and general drainage inspections (excluding housing defects)	183
Investigations connected with the prevention and abatement of nuisances, et cetera:	
Offensive Trades	63
Moveable dwellings and sites	105
Noise nuisance	36
Other statutory nuisances (excluding housing defects)	55
Infectious diseases and food poisoning enquiries	74
For uncleanness and verminous conditions (including inspections for House Management)	305
Inspections and Enquiries connected with Pest Control:	
For rodent infestation (mainly by Rodent Control Staff)	1,899
For other pests	108
Pet Animals Act 1951	3
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	5
Riding Establishments Act 1964	2

Table 26. Number of Notices Served and the Result of Service

Act or Section under which or, in the case of informal notices, preliminary to which, notice was served	No. of Informal Notices					No. of Statutory Notices					
	Outstanding from 1965 (a)	Served in 1966 (b)	Total of these (c)	Complied with (d)	Outstanding at end of 1966 (e)	Outstanding from 1965 (f)	Served in 1966 (g)	Total of these (h)	Complied with (i)	Work done by I.A.A. (j)	Outstanding at end of 1966 (k)
Public Health Act 1936. Housing Defects:											
Section 39, 40, 44, 45 and 51	1	12	13	10	3	-	3	3	2	-	1
Section 93	5	24	29	26	3	-	3	3	2	-	1
Public Health Act 1936. Other Premises:											
Section 39	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Section 75	-	4	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Section 93	-	9	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Health Act 1961. Section 17	-	7	7	7	-	-	2	2	2	-	-
Housing Act 1957. Section 9	-	2	2	2	-	-	2	2	2	-	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.											
Section 4	2	89	91	88	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Section 6	2	7	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	10	155	165	156	9	-	10	10	8	-	2

Staff

The Department was fortunate to retain the services of its technical and clerical staff during the year, particularly in view of the current national shortage. This unbroken service has enabled us to accomplish much, not simply in terms of numbers of inspections undertaken, but in the more diverse aspects of environmental public work.

The Council's policy of providing facilities to train its own inspectors has again been amply justified. During the year one pupil, Mr. K.I. Bullough obtained his Diploma qualification. Unfortunately there was no vacancy for a qualified inspector and he subsequently secured a post with the Castleford Borough Council. A second pupil, Mr. R.W. Matthews, who is one of the outstanding pupils on his course was successful in obtaining the Intermediate Diploma qualification and is due to take his final examination in 1968. A second pupil, Mr. W. Higson, was appointed in November to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Bullough's departure.

In conclusion I should like to take this opportunity to acknowledge with sincerity the loyalty and hard work afforded by members of my staff both clerical and technical, and in particular to the willing response to frequent demands made upon them to undertake duties outside their normal working hours.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

Municipal Offices,
Pontefract.

September, 1967.

